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***Manner: UNDETERMINED***

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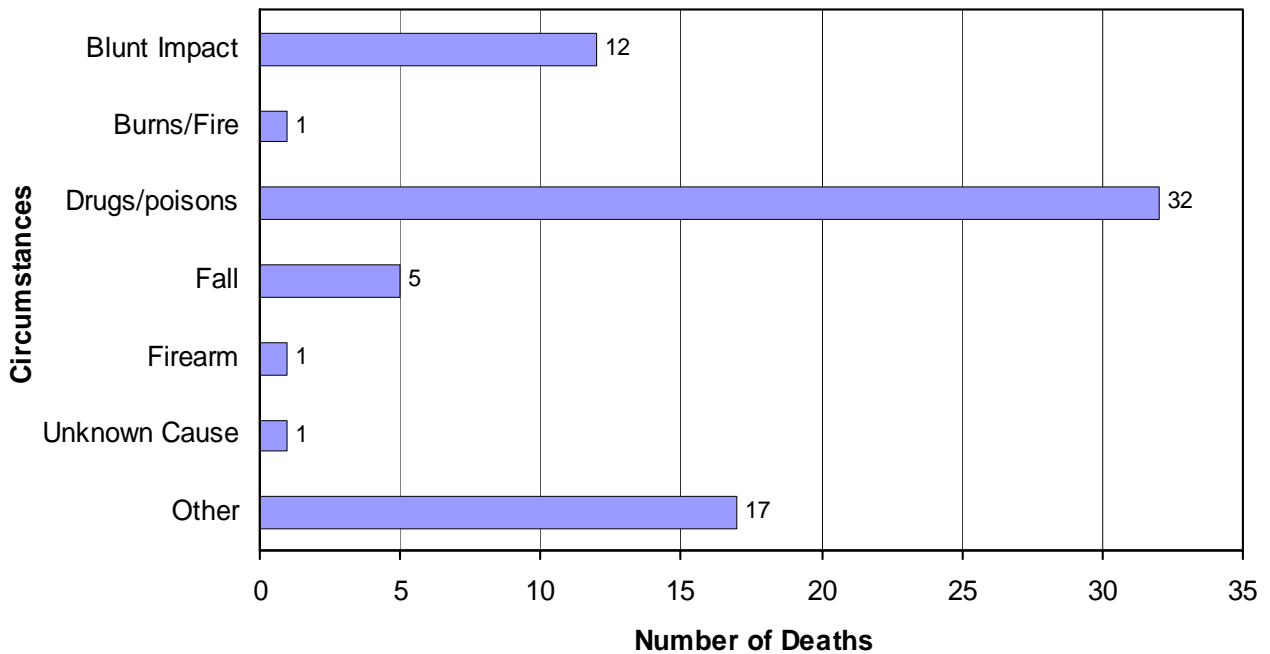
Manner of death certified Undetermined refers to circumstances in which available information is insufficient to classify the death into one of the specific manners of natural or unnatural death. Information concerning the circumstances may be lacking because of the absence of background information or witnesses, or because of a lengthy delay between death and discovery of the body. If an extensive investigation and autopsy cannot clarify the circumstances, the death is placed in this category.

Within King County, there were 69 deaths with manner undetermined, accounting for 4% (69/1,815) of the Medical Examiner death investigations for the calendar year 2003. Drugs caused thirty-two, or 46%, of the 69 deaths of undetermined manner. For a more detailed review of drug-caused deaths in 2003, see also the discussion in the section on Drugs and Poisons on pages 81 & 82.

Graph 8-1

## Undetermined Manner of Death in 2003

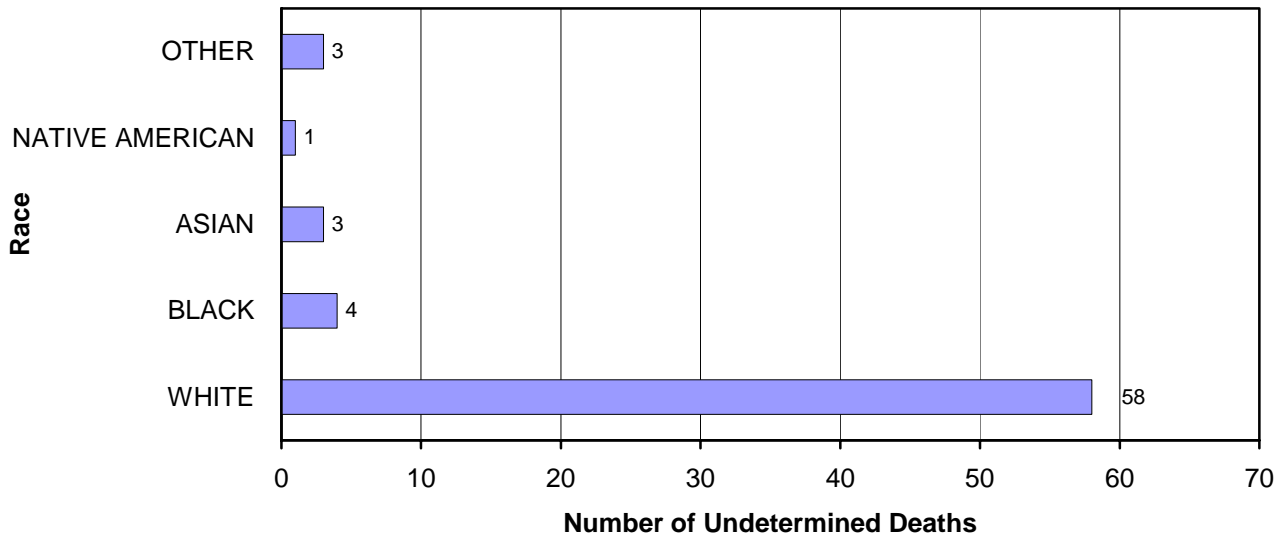
Total Number of Undermined Deaths = 69



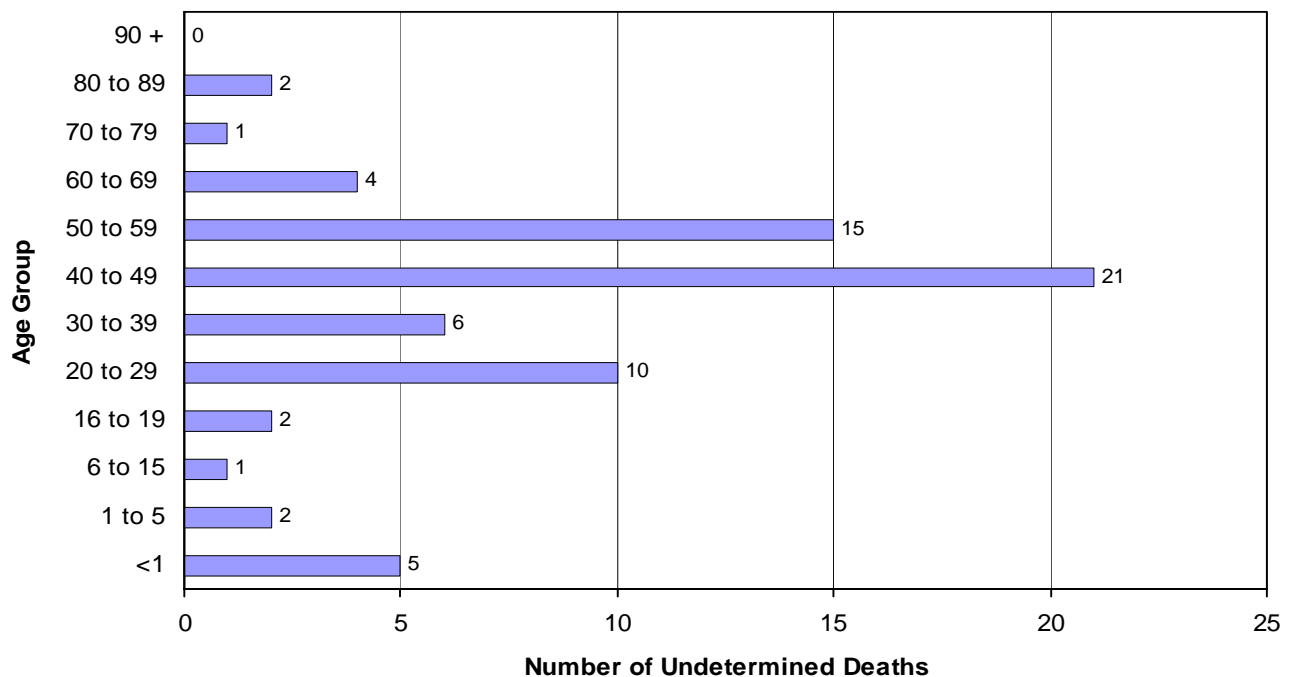
**Table 8-1 Undetermined Manner of Death and Race of the Decedent**

CIRCUMSTANCES / GENDER	RACE					SUB TOTAL	TOTAL
	WHITE	BLACK	ASIAN	NATIVE AMERICAN	OTHER		
Blunt Impact	10	0	1	0	1		12
<i>Male</i>	10	0	1	0	0	11	
<i>Female</i>	0	0	0	0	1	1	
Burns/Fire	1	0	0	0	0		1
<i>Male</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Female</i>	1	0	0	0	0	1	
Drugs/poisons	30	2	0	0	0		32
<i>Male</i>	14	2	0	0	0	16	
<i>Female</i>	16	0	0	0	0	16	
Fall	3	0	1	0	1		5
<i>Male</i>	3	0	1	0	1	5	
<i>Female</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Firearm	1	0	0	0	0		1
<i>Male</i>	1	0	0	0	0	1	
<i>Female</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	
No anatomic or toxicologic cause of death	0	1	0	0	0		1
<i>Male</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Female</i>	0	1	0	0	0	1	
Other	13	1	1	1	1		17
<i>Male</i>	8	1	1	1	0	11	
<i>Female</i>	5	0	0	0	1	6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>69</b>
Percent	84%	6%	4%	2%	4%		

Graph 8-2

**Deaths Due to Undetermined Manner of Death  
and Race of the Decedent**

Graph 8-3

**Deaths Due to Undetermined Manner of Death  
and Age Group of the Decedent**

**Table 8-2 Undetermined Circumstances and Age Group of the Decedent**

INJURY METHOD / GENDER	AGE GROUP (YEARS)												SUB TOTAL	TOTAL
	<1	1 to 5	6 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 to 69	70 to 79	80 to 89	90 +		
Blunt Impact	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	3	2	0	1	0		12
Male	0	2	0	1	0	0	2	3	2	0	1	0	11	
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Burns/Fire	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1
Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Female	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Drugs/poisons	1	0	1	1	4	3	10	9	1	1	1	0		32
Male	1	0	1	1	2	2	5	4	0	0	1	0	17	
Female	0	0	0	0	2	1	5	5	1	1	0	0	15	
Fall	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0		5
Male	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	5	
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Firearm	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1
Male	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
No anatomic or toxicological cause of death	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		1
Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Other	4	0	0	0	3	2	5	2	1	0	0	0		17
Male	2	0	0	0	3	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	12	
Female	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>69</b>
<b>Percent</b>	7%	3%	1%	3%	15%	9%	30%	22%	6%	1%	3%	0%		

**Table 8-3 Undetermined Manner of Death and Gender of the Decedent**

INJURY METHOD	GENDER		TOTAL
	MALE	FEMALE	
Blunt Impact	11	1	12
Burns/Fire	0	1	1
Drugs/poisons	17	15	32
Fall	5	0	5
Firearm	1	0	1
No anatomic or toxicologic cause of death	0	1	1
Other	12	5	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>69</b>
Percent	67%	33%	

**Table 8-4 Undetermined Manner of Death and Blood Alcohol Test Results of the Decedent**

METHOD	TESTED		NOT	TOTAL
	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	TESTED	
Blunt Impact	1	4	7	12
Burns/Fire	0	0	1	1
Drugs/poisons	3	25	4	32
Fall	2	2	1	5
Firearm	0	1	0	1
No anatomic or toxicologic cause of death	0	1	0	1
Other	7	7	3	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>69</b>